

Nikki R. Byrom  
Department of English and Philosophy  
University of West Georgia  
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### **Education**

- M.A. English (2016), Georgia College and State University.  
Thesis: Clappin Back with Mama's Gun: Language as Resistance in 20th Century African American Women's Literature.  
Committee: Beauty Bragg (Director), Craig Callender, Claudia Yaghoobi.
- B.A. English (2006), Fort Valley State University  
Capstone: Sankofa and the Quest for Wholeness in the works of Paule Marshall.

### **Invited Talks**

- 2017 "Zora Neale Hurston and the Language of Blackness". GCSU. November.
- 2016 "Octavia Butler and her Kindred". GCSU. August.  
"I Feel Like a Brand New Groove: Alice Walker and the Rearticulation of the 'Folk'". April.  
"Sankofa and Colonialism in Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart". March.
- 2015 "Can We Talk or Nah?: The Persistence of African American Vernacular English as an Expression of Cultural Power" . September.

### **Panel Presentations**

- 2016 "Black Girl Magic: The Power of African American Women Writers in Georgia".  
Lost Keys Literary Festival. Macon, GA. October 2016.

### **Papers Presented**

- 2015 "From Birth to the Earth: Identity and Existentialism in Leslie Marmon Silko's Gardens in the Dunes". GCSU Women's Studies Student Symposium, Milledgeville, GA, March.  
"And a Woman Shall Lead Them: Rabi'a al-'Adawiyya and Selfless Love in the Writings of Attar". GCSU Women's Studies Student Symposium, Milledgeville,

GA, March.

2014

"Small Town Lamentations" (creative piece). GCSU Women's Studies Student Symposium. March.

### **Experience**

Instructor of English, University of West Georgia. 2016-Present.

### **Memberships**

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society

Kappa Delta Epsilon Honorary Educational Fraternity